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P07 42146 (18810-80349) 2/20/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: December 31, 2001

In re application of: Lin et al.

Serial No. 09/374,142

Filed: August 11, 1999

**For: METHOD OF DIAGNOSING OR TREATING IRRITABLE
BOWEL SYNDROME AND OTHER DISORDERS
CAUSED BY SMALL INTESTINAL BACTERIAL
OVERGROWTH**

Examiner: Fields, I.

Unit: 1645

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D. C. 20231, ON <u>December 31, 2001</u> DATE	
BY <u>[Signature]</u>	ANN WEISS
<u>December 31, 2001</u> DATE SIGNED	

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is in Response to the Office Action mailed August 29, 2001, for the above-captioned patent application. This response is submitted on or before December 31, 2001 (December 29, 2001, being a Saturday, and December 30, 2001, being a Sunday), together with a request for a one (1)-month extension of time, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and the requisite fee, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1). In connection with the above-captioned application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the following amendment and remarks.